

Attorney's Docket No.: 06501-092001 / D1-A0009-US

GAU 1633
#8
9/4/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Hiroaki Yamamoto et al.
Serial No. : 10/020,674
Filed : October 30, 2001
Title : NOVEL (R)-2,3-BUTANEDIOL DEHYDROGENASE

Art Unit : 1633
Examiner : Unknown

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Arlington, VA 22202

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant submits the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449, copies of which are enclosed. A copy of a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application is also enclosed.

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/147,003 ('003), listed on the attached PTO-1449 form, shares at least one common inventor (Hiroaki Yamamoto) with the present application. In addition, the present application and the '003 application are both assigned to the Daicel Chemical Industries, Ltd., a Japanese corporation having a place of business at:

1 Teppo-cho, Sakai-shi, Osaka 590-8501 JAPAN.

The following reference was previously submitted and is not being submitted herewith:

Heidlas et al., "Purification and characterization of a (R)-2,3-butanediol dehydrogenase from *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*", Arch. of Microbiol., 154:267-273, 1990

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 2327, Arlington, VA 22202.

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Serial No. : 10/020,674
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Page : 2

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This statement is being filed before the receipt of a first Office action on the merits.

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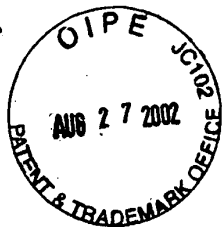
Respectfully submitted,

Date: 8/23/02

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Your Reference: SDR/24020
Application No: GB 0126119.7

1 July 2002

Dear Sirs

Patents Act 1977: Search Report under Section 17(5)

I enclose two copies of my search report and a copy of the citations.

Publication

I estimate that, provided you have met all formal requirements, preparations for publication of your application will be completed soon after **25 March 2003**. You will then receive a letter informing you of completion and telling you the publication number and date of publication.

Amendment/withdrawal

If you wish to file amended claims for inclusion with the published application, or to withdraw the application to prevent publication, you must do so before the preparations for publication are completed. **No reminder will be issued.** If you write to the Office less than 3 weeks before the above completion date, please mark your letter prominently: **"URGENT - PUBLICATION IMMINENT"**.

Yours faithfully

Dr Jeremy Kaye
Examiner

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Application No: GB 0126119.7
Claims searched: 1-18

Examiner: Dr Jeremy Kaye
Date of search: 28 June 2002

Patents Act 1977 Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:

UK Cl (Ed.T):

Int Cl (Ed.7):

Other: Online: EPODOC, WPI, PAJ, BIOSIS, CAPLUS, EMBASE, MEDLINE,
SCISEARCH, BLASTp, BLASTn

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage	Relevant to claims
A	WO 99/54453 A1 (CHR. HANSEN A/S) p.3, 1.20 - p.5, 1.30	
Y	Gene, Vol.197, 1997, Smania, A. M. et al., "Molecular cloning and characterization...", pp.231-238.	6-18
X, Y	Arch. Microbiology, Vol.154, 1990, Heidlas, J. et al., "Purification and characterization of a (R)-2,3-butanediol dehydrogenase...", pp.267-273	X: 1-5 Y: 6-18

X Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step
Y Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.
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A Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
P Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
E Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.